

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please CANCEL claims 1-20 without prejudice to or disclaimer of their subject matter. Please ADD claims 21-28, as follows.

Claims 1-20 (Cancelled).

21. (New) An image forming apparatus comprising:

image forming means for forming a toner image on a recording material;

a fixing rotary member and pressure rotary member forming a nip wherein the toner image on the recording material is fixed as the recording material passes through the nip;

heating means for heating said fixing rotary member;

means for performing a warming-up operation for increasing a temperature of said fixing rotary member to a predetermined temperature;

means for, subsequently to said warming-up operation, performing a heat accumulation operation for accumulating heat to said fixing rotary member and pressure rotary member while rotating said fixing rotary member and pressure rotary member; and

changing means for changing a duration of said accumulation operation in accordance with a duration of said warming-up operation.

22. (New) An image forming apparatus according to claim 21, wherein when the duration of said warming-up operation is long, the duration of said accumulation operation is made to be long.

23. (New) An image forming apparatus according to claim 21 or 22, wherein said pressure rotary member has a mandrel and an elastic layer provided thereon.

24. (New) An image forming apparatus according to claim 21, wherein a state capable of starting image forming is brought about in accordance with a termination of said warming-up operation.

25. (New) An image forming apparatus according to claim 23, further comprising heating means, which is arranged in said mandrel, for heating said pressure rotary member.

26. (New) An image forming apparatus according to claim 21, wherein said heating means is arranged in said fixing rotary member.

27. (New) An image forming apparatus according to claim 21, wherein said heating means includes a halogen lamp.

28. (New) An image forming apparatus according to claim 21, wherein said heating means includes magnetic flux generating means for heating said fixing rotary member by electromagnetic induction.